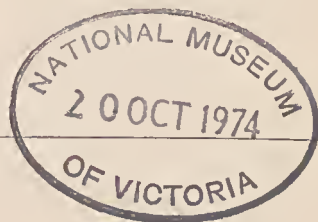


RECORDS OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM LAUNCESTON



A LIST OF TASMANIAN ABORIGINAL MATERIAL IN COLLECTIONS IN EUROPE

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ABSTRACT

The extinction of the Tasmanians some eighty years ago and their virtual captivity for more than forty years previously, have meant that material relating to these aborigines is not only rare, but usually lacks the information about its origin that is necessary for its proper study.

The general conclusions reached in a survey (Plomley, 1961) of Tasmanian collections in Europe were that skeletal remains were not adequately documented, thus permitting only the identification of a "typical form"; and that there was such doubt as to the origin of cultural material that little if any reliance could be placed on most of it. It was also found that collections in Europe of Tasmanian stone implements were, with one exception, quite inadequate for satisfactory work — although here the need is rather for precise archaeological studies in the field. Attention was also drawn to the various portraits of the aborigines, which have not received the attention they deserve; and to the manuscript sources of information about the natives.

The following paper gives particular information about these collections. In it will be considered first the sources of the more important collections, and then the various classes of material will be listed in detail.

THE COLLECTIONS

When, early in the 19th century, it came to be believed that racial differences could be characterised by the structure of the skull, there arose a demand for material representative of the various peoples of the world, and Tasmanian skulls were especially sought because of their rarity. Not much care was taken to ensure that the origin of the specimens was accurately known or recorded, it being sufficient to have a skull in one's collection bearing the label "Tasmanian". The composition of the various collections shows this clearly: the skulls were acquired piecemeal, from residents in the colony and from visitors, from surgeons and from land-owners, and varied in source from material collected in the hospitals to specimens picked up in the bush. There being no native burial grounds and most of the Tasmanians burning their dead, these skulls date almost without exception from the period of European settlement, and from that time not only were the tribes more and more displaced and intermingled, but hybridisation occurred and other racial forms were introduced into the area, among them aborigines from the Australian mainland. There have also been mistakes of labelling and the like. Altogether, there is not much hope of coming to any detailed conclusions about the form of the Tasmanian skull; and the same can be said of other Tasmanian morphological material.

By far the largest collections of Tasmanian skeletal material in Europe were those of Dr Barnard Davis and of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, but important collections were also built up at Edinburgh, Oxford, Paris and elsewhere. The Barnard Davis and College of Surgeons collections were destroyed in 1941, but other losses of skeletal material seem to have been small. However, little information can be obtained about collections in Germany.

Dr Joseph Barnard Davis (1801-1881), F.R.S., surgeon, of Shelton in Staffordshire, amassed the largest private collection of skulls in England. He published catalogues of them, the *Thesaurus craniorum* (1867) and its *Supplement* (1875). His Tasmanian material included a complete skeleton, about fifteen skulls, bones used as "relics of the dead", and items of ethnographical interest. The skeletal material was all acquired by the College of Surgeons in 1880, but his ethnographical collection was dispersed.

Another large collection of Tasmanian skeletal material was built up by the Royal College of Surgeons. Particulars of most of it have been given in the catalogues of osteological specimens by Owen (1831, 1853) and by Flower (1879, 1907), but a few specimens were received subsequently. The catalogue of 1907 lists two skeletons and eighteen skulls; and another skull, possibly Tasmanian, is listed among the pathological specimens. The reference numbers relating to the collection are confused owing to renumbering. To the College material must be added Barnard Davis's specimens, but information about them can only be obtained from his lists, no mention of them being made in Flower's catalogue of 1907. It is particularly important to note that the Barnard Davis series was renumbered by the College and has been referred to in the literature under the new numbers, but that no comparative list of the numbers has been published. All that now remains of these two collections is one skull and some fragments, all other material having been destroyed by enemy action on the night of May 10/11, 1941.

Collections in Europe of Tasmanian stone implements are, with the exception of the Westlake collection at Oxford, unrepresentative and inadequate for useful study. Only four contain more than a hundred specimens, and the impression gained is that much of the material had been rejected first by the aborigines and later by those by collecting it!

In Europe, collections of Tasmanian ethnographical material are found mostly in England. Specimens collected by the French and British expeditions to the Pacific (and it is known that at least one of the French expeditions at the end of the 18th century acquired ethnographical material directly from the natives) seem no longer to exist. Present collections in England have been derived in large part from one made by George Augustus Robinson, a man who was associated with the Tasmanian aborigines from 1829 to 1839, first as their Conciliator and then as Commandant of the aboriginal settlement on Flinders Island. Later, from 1839 to 1849, Robinson was Chief Protector of the aborigines in Victoria. It is clear that during the whole of this period he collected relics of the aborigines, and also that those he acquired in Tasmania were sometimes of Australian manufacture—thus, he records in his journal for April 21, 1831, that while at George Town (Tasmania) he was given a basket made by the natives of Moreton Bay (Queensland); and on July 1, 1832, while at Cape Grim, north-western Tasmania, some Sydney natives attached to a party engaged in the rounding up of the Tasmanians, gave him some of their weapons, which they had made there especially for him and which almost certainly included boomerangs (MSS in Mitchell Library, Sydney). Moreover, it is doubtful whether Robinson saw much difference between Australians and Tasmanians: certainly people who had known him after his return to England in 1852 thought this, and came to disregard what he had to say. His collections seem to have been a jumble of Tasmanian and Australian material, some of it unlabelled, some of it wrongly labelled. During his lifetime he gave away some of the things he had collected, and after his death in 1866 his widow sold what remained to Dr Barnard Davis for £30. There is a list of this in Barnard Davis's MSS at the Royal Anthropological Institute in London and it is worth quoting not only because it helps to identify items in the original collection, but because Barnard Davis's annotations and comments indicate the diversity of origin of the material:—

"List of ethnological objects collected by the late Geo Augustus Robinson, and purchased of his widow, Mar 29 1867.

Skull of Tasmanian man No. 1481.

Do. woman 82.

Map of Van D's L. Frankland 1837.

12 coloured drawings of Tasmanian aborigines by [blank] in frames.

5 coloured drawings of do. on tinted paper in four frames.

2 coloured drawings of do. framed—one of these is named "Togel-longertee".

1 pencil drawing of "Morum-morum-been" by W. Strutt, 1852, Boningong Tribe. (Australian).

5 drawings of the heads of aborigines of Tasmania in profile of a sepia tint in frames.

1 pencil drawing of "Waran-drenin," Warrenep Tribe. By W. Strutt, 1852. "Warren-ten-noon" alias "Mary", lubra of "Morum-morum-been". (Australian).

- 1 coloured drawing of an *Australian* in a sailor's jacket, by W. B. Gould.
- 1 drawing in pencil of "Paru-garu", one of the Native Police in 1851. Signed W. Strutt, del. (Australian).
- 1 lithograph of "Moonwillie," an *Australian* of good manners.
- 1 do. of "Oorunguiam" and "Murnight", Native *Australian* Police.
- 1 drawing coloured "The natives of Tasmania bewailing the loss of their country". A design for the "Finis" of Mr G. A. Robinson's work.
- 1 coloured drawing of Cape Barren Geese. "R. Neill, delt. July 1830".
- 1 daguerrotype of 3 Tasmanians.
- 1 large oil painting of a native of Bruce Island called "The Doctor," who was highly esteemed by G. A. Robinson.
- 1 skin of wombat with the fur turned inwards, and all the openings secured, for a water vessel.
- 1 slender stick with an almond shaped prominence at the end.
- 1 woman's girdle for the loins, made of white shells. Qu. whether Australian. (Appears to be African).
- Necklaces. (Shells are cowries with yellow spots; string looks like hair. Pacific?).
- 1 beautifully carved box in the shape of a canoe, with grotesque heads at the extremities. (This is a feather box from the Feejees).
- 3 human lower jaws of Tasmanians with native cord wrapped round them. These were worn round the necks of the natives as amulets.
- 2 human tibiae of Tasmanians prepared in the same way for wearing.
- 2 plaster busts of Tasmanians, by B. Law, Hobart Town. The man is the bust of Woreddy, a native of Bruce Island. The woman is Truggeranna, native of Sullivan Cove.
- 5 stone axes in split hafts, fixed with gum of xanthorrhoea. Tasmanian. See Bonwick p. 44.
- 1 do. with stick haft. Do.
- 3 do. without hafts. Do.
- 1 large necklace made of reeds (Australian) labelled "1847 July. Necklace N.N.W. from Billie".
- 23 *Haliotis* shells, a fish for which the women were expert divers. They took a pointed stick in one hand and had a bag under the arm. She descended and loosened the fishes from the rocks & put them into the bag, generally coming up with the bag full. Occasionally a woman got fixed between two rocks and was drowned.
- 5 reed necklaces from "Ovens" '41. Australia.
- 2 necklaces made from some portion of a shellfish. "Oveus, '41". (or a coralline).
- Drawing. Return of G. A. Robinson to the Penal Settlement of Macquarie Harbour with the Port Davy Tribe of Aborigines on the morning of the 25th May, 1833. Mr Robinson's own inscription on the back.
- Piece of native rope, made of grass.
- 3 necklaces of claws of an animal. One strung on twisted sinew.
- A portion of claw necklace with 8 larger claws.
- A small feather ornament.
- A small portion of net.
- A necklace of six strands, feather.
- Another with more slender strands.
- 2 very fine nose sticks and a small one.
- Bunch of bones of the albatros. From a barren island near V.D.L. frequented by the albatros. Extreme N. West Albatross Island.
- About 20 string necklaces made of native string.
- 1 necklace made of sinew.
- 1 finely prepared thick sinew rolled up into perhaps an amulet.
- Box of worsted work the Tasmanians were taught to make.
- 2 bundles of sticks for producing fire. Tasmanian. 6 "fire sticks"—1 twirling sticks & 1 receiver —8 twirling sticks and 4 receivers. The "fire sticks" are for carrying fire, the round ones for producing.
- 1 bundle of small sticks, charred at the ends.
- 2 amulets made of the cremated bones of the dead. V.D.L. "Roydeener", or "Numremureker".
- 2 Australian shields.
- 8 boomerangs; one of which is large and used for throwing *vertically* G.A.R.
- 11 throwing sticks, some carved.
- 5 shields of different forms S.A.
- Coloured drawings of 2 *Tasmanian* catamaras or floats. (See plates of Atlas de la Perouse No. 44 Cape Diemen).
- 1 *Tasmanian* catamaran.
- 5 spears, barbed. Tasm.
- 29 fine spears of different kinds.
- 10 reed spears, "Ovens Feb. '41".
- 17 spears, 2 with iron spikes.
- An amulet consisting of the bones of a child tied up in a little bass bag. The 2 femora 2 ulnae and the bones of one hand. (In skull case).
- 1 apron-bands, made of emu feathers for women. (See Lloyd's Tasm. Vict. 467. Australian).
- 2 bunches for men.
- 2 human ribs, clean. For a charm or an ornament.
- 2 humps of *Eucalyptus* gum prepared by natives (*Eucalyptus resinifera*). Some pieces of raddle for painting the body.
- A quantity of prepared sinew.
- 5 teeth of the wombat and kangaroo, cut from the hair of "Loek" 2nd daughter of "Bilbilyun" 1 Sept. 1839. These are Australian and the hair is flowing.
- Mask in plaster of a portion of the face of a *Tasmanian*. It reaches from near the eyes where the ringlets of ochred hair come down on to the nose to the tip of the chin. The nose is broad, face flat and mouth of pleasant expression. This is remarkably different from an Australian face. "B. D. Sculpt. 1835".
- Small specimens of crystals. *Tasmanian* diamonds?
- Box of worsted and other work done by the women, *Tasmanian*, at Flinders Island.
- Piece of pith of *Tasmanian* Tree Fern upon which Robinson had to subsist at times.
- Small amulet. Seems to contain a bone.
- 2 boxes of minerals, *Tasmanian* and Australian.
- 3 long fishing nets "Ovens Feb. '41".
- 3 long slender nets.
- Stake net. A large net rolled on sticks, circular base.
- 2 mats, one of which has a pocket in it. "Champions". *Tasmanian*.
- 4 long narrow bags. Seem to be for catching some animal in.
- Another small circular bass mat bag. Tasm.

- 2 very beautiful baskets or bags, Tasmanian, used by the women for fishing &c. One of them contains a good description in it by G. A. Robinson in MS.
- 8 thick bass bags. Tasm.
- 2 small fine net bags, one of which is inscribed "Net bag July 15, '47". Australian.
- 12 net bags. One of these is ticketed "Ovens Feb '41", another has a native name on the ticket.
- A small net.
- A piece of netting which is either an apron or a bag in the process of being made.

In a letter which he wrote afterwards to Mrs Robinson, Barnard Davis remarked that "Dr Milligan has returned to England . . . from what he tells me, it seems that almost all the objects I had from you are Australian and not Tasmanian, except the portraits. I always thought this was the case, because Mr Robinson was disposed to confuse the two races together, and call the whole Australian." (Letter dated October 13 1867, in the Mitchell Library, Sydney).

On March 16, 1848 G. A. Robinson wrote to J. S. Prout, the artist, to say that he was sending him some articles relating to the Tasmanian and Australian aborigines, including the signboard listed above. In the same letter Robinson also says, 'I should much like Mr. Brown's dgt. group of Walter, Mary Ann & David Brune.' This is likely to be the 'daguerrotype of 3 Tasmanians' listed by Barnard Davis.

Barnard Davis's collections were dispersed before and after his death in 1881. The skeletal material was bought by the Royal College of Surgeons in 1880, and his library was sold at Sotheby's in January/February 1883. With the library were sold photographs and drawings "of various types of savages," but the Tasmanian portraits were probably not included here: the latter were almost certainly framed, and Sotheby's catalogue seems to refer to material either mounted in albums or loose. What happened to the ethnographical collection has not been elucidated. Items from it have been traced to a number of collections, and it therefore seems likely that it was sold at auction, but no records of this have been found. Such details would be of great interest, since they might give clues to the origin of some of the portraits.

Besides the Tasmanian ethnographical material in Barnard Davis's collection, most of which he had obtained from G. A. Robinson but some from others, there were a few other original collections in England. The Chichester Museum had a small Tasmanian collection, obtained between 1833 and 1838. This collection, which included three skulls, was acquired in 1912 by Captain A. W. F. Fuller of London; and recently most of this and some other Tasmanian material was sold by him to the Chicago Natural History Museum.

Another collection of interest is in the Museum at Saffron Walden, a country town about fifteen miles from Cambridge. This museum was founded in 1832 and its ethnological collections contain a number of genuine early pieces, obtained from various native peoples during early contacts with Europeans. The original registers of the museum have been lost (if they ever did exist), but a catalogue of specimens acquired between 1832 and 1880 was prepared about

1897 from labels and other memoranda. There is also an *Abridged catalogue*, published in 1845, and among the entries are the following (p. 76) :—

"A boomerang: the natives by throwing it in a peculiar manner, can cause this weapon to strike an object behind them. From Van Diemen's Land. John Helder Wedge Esq., Van Diemen's Land."

"A shield of wood 3 ft. 6 in. long, 10 in. wide, ornamented with zigzag pattern, filled up with a white substance. ditto. ditto."

The MS catalogue of 1897 lists various gifts between 1833 and 1839 from John Helder Wedge of Leighland, near Perth, Van Diemen's Land, and from Charles Wedge of Shudy Camps, near Linton in Cambridgeshire. J. H. Wedge was a government surveyor in Tasmania from 1826 to 1835. In 1835 he went to Victoria, where he carried out a number of surveys. His brother Charles was also a surveyor, working in Tasmania and in Victoria. The gifts received from J. H. Wedge and his brother included animals and birds, geological specimens, and weapons of the natives of New South Wales and New Zealand, as well as shields, clubs, waddies, spears and boomerangs from Van Diemen's Land. A number of these latter, marked "Van Diemen's Land" and corresponding to individual items in the MS catalogue, are still in the collections at Saffron Walden. Here, then, is a clear case not only of wrong labelling but of this having occurred early in the history of the collection. It shows clearly the care that must be taken in dealing with Tasmanian aboriginal material. The shields and boomerangs can, of course, be rejected out of hand, but there is no case either for attributing the waddies, spears and clubs to the Tasmanians. All are apparently Australian, even the spears which, though lancelike, consist of two parts, a more slender point being fitted into a "handle" of about the same length—an example of this type of spear was presented some years ago by the Saffron Walden Museum to the Launceston Museum, Tasmania.

The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, which was founded in 1843 as the Ethnological Society of London, had a collection of anthropological material, but most of this was dispersed many years ago. A Tasmanian skeleton obtained from Morton Allport in 1873 was sold to the British Museum (Natural History) in 1898, but some portraits of the aborigines are still at the Institute.

Lastly, it is worth noting that Tasmanian aboriginal material was shown in the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London. Four items are mentioned in the catalogue :—

194. Neeklaces of shells, as worn by the aborigines of Tasmania (J. Milligan).
230. Seven baskets, made by the aborigines of Tasmania (J. Milligan).
231. Model of a water-pitcher made by the aborigines of Van Diemen's Land (J. Milligan).
279. Four models of canoes of the aborigines of Van Diemen's Land (J. Milligan).

Of these objects, the model of the water-container and one of the models of the canoe-raft are almost certainly those now in the British Museum. When the Exhibition closed at the end of September 1851 the huge structure of cast iron and glass was removed from Hyde Park

to Sydenham, where it became known as the "Crystal Palace". Ethnographical material was shown among the permanent exhibits there, these probably including a series of portraits of the Tasmanians. Unfortunately, all were lost in the fire which destroyed the building in 1836.

Nearly all the Tasmanian ethnographical material mentioned above is now in the British Museum or in the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford.

SKELETAL MATERIAL.

THE SKELETON.

[The presence or absence of the mandible has been noted when examining collections, and this is indicated by (md+) or (md-) respectively].

Five skeletons of Tasmanian aborigines are referred to in the literature as being in collections in Europe, but only two of them still exist. These five skeletons were obtained from Morton Allport, Curator of the Hobart Museum, between 1840 and 1875. [In the *British Medical Journal* for November 30, 1888 it is stated that five Tasmanian skeletons were shown in the anthropological section of the Universal Exhibition of Paris, but this may be a mistake. At the Exposition des sciences anthropologiques held in Paris in that year three Tasmanian skeletons were exhibited; they had been lent by Dr Barnard Davis and by the Royal College of Surgeons.]

Royal College of Surgeons of England. (Material destroyed 1941).

[Specimens from the Barnard Davis collection are indicated by adding in brackets after the College number the letters BD and the number used in Davis's *Thesaurus caniorum* (1867) and its *Supplement* (1875)].

1096. Tasmanian male. (From grave on Flinders Island).

1097. Tasmanian female. ("Bessy Clark").

1406 (BD 1761). Tasmanian male.

British Museum (Natural History).

1917.10.29.1. Tasmania. Male (?) (md+). Purchased from the Anthropological Society of London, 1898; from Morton Allport, 1873.

Institut royal des sciences naturelles de Belgique (Brussels).

Squelette d'un Tasmanien de l'Île Flinders. (md+).

Echange Morton Allport 1873. No. 310 (I.G. 3203. Reg. 46).

References: Davis (1874, 1875), Flower (1907), Garson (1899), Hrdlicka (1928), Klaatsch (1903), Pycraft (1925), Steadman (1937), Turner (1910).

THE SKULL.

Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Most of the Tasmanian skulls in the Museum at the College were recorded in the 1907 edition of the catalogue of osteological specimens, only a little material having been received subsequently. At different times different series of numbers were applied to the specimens: most of these were used prior to the first edition (1879) of Flower's catalogue, but at least some of the specimens received after the publication of the edition of 1907 were given yet another series of numbers. As nearly all the material no longer exists and as any worthwhile descriptions of it refer mainly to Flower's numbers, there seems little point in trying to sort out the confusion of the old numbers in the MS registers of the College and in Owen's catalogues of 1831 and 1853.

Flower lists the following skulls in the 1907 edition of his catalogue:—

1098. Tasmanian male. Hunterian collection.

1099. Tasmanian male. Presented by Ronald Gunn.

1100. Tasmanian male. Presented by Ronald Gunn.

1101. Tasmanian male. "Tasmanian warrior, killed at Brushy Plains." Presented by George Busk, 1864.

1102. Tasmanian male. Brought from Tasmania by Dr. Milligan. Presented by George Busk, 1864.

1103. Tasmanian male (entered in MS catalogue as "cranium of an Australian"). Presented by Lady Franklin, 1854.

1104. Tasmanian male (somewhat exceptional characters: ? Tasmanian). Presented by Dr Hobson.

1105. Tasmanian female. Hunterian collection.

1106. Tasmanian female ("from Port Dalrymple, Van Diemen's Land"). Presented by Sir Everard Home, 1809.

1107. Tasmanian female. Presented by Ronald Gunn.

1108. Tasmanian female (from a grave in Bruny Island). Presented by Dr Archibald Sibbald, R.N., 1854.

1109. Tasmanian female ("previously described as Australian"). Presented by Ronald Gunn.

1109.1. Tasmanian. Presented by J. Marshall, 1892.

1110. Said to be Tasmanian, female. Presented by Sir Joseph Hooker, 1866 ("from Dr. Bedford").

1111. Tasmanian, ? male aged 14 years. Presented by G. J. Guthrie, 1825.

1112. Young Tasmanian. Presented by Ronald Gunn.

1113. Tasmanian, female infant ("from Port Dalrymple"). Presented by Thomas Hobbes Scott, 1821.

1113A. From South Pacific, with characters resembling those of the Tasmanian race, male. Presented by Sir Joseph Hooker, 1866.

Material received after 1907 included:—

1096.1. 7 teeth, from a shell-heap in Tasmania. Donor: W. J. Lewis Abbot, 1922.

1096.2. Imperfect mandibles from sand-dunes in S.E. Tasmania.

1109.1. Tasmanian: imperfect calvarium, probably female. Donor: Sir Colin Mackenzie, 1915.

In Owen's catalogue of 1831 two skulls are listed which had been given to the museum by Thomas Hobbes Scott in 1821. These two specimens appear in the MS register as:—

No. 1082. September 28 1821. Henry Cline Esq. from (the Revd) Thomas Hobbes Scott Esq. lately returned from New South Wales, etc.

1. A skull of an adult from Port Dalrymple, the posterior part of which appears to have been injured by fire.

2. A skull of a female child from Port Dalrymple. The central points of the parietal bones project unusually.

The subsequent history of the child's skull is straightforward: it is item 99 of Owen's list (1831), item 5345 in his list of 1853 (where it is entered as "the cranium of an Australian child, from Van Diemen's Land") and item 1113 of Flower's lists (1879, 1907); but that of the

damaged adult skull is confused. The latter is listed by Owen under his number 95 in 1831, and under his number 5903 in 1853 (quoted in error as 5904 in an annotation in the MS register). It is not listed by Flower but appears next in Paget's catalogue of pathological specimens (1882) as item 2085—"a mutilated skull of a European . . . from the Barnard Davis collection". There is also a later (?) catalogue number for this specimen—12890. The skull is still in the collections at the Royal College of Surgeons (md—).

The Barnard Davis collection, acquired by the College in 1880, was renumbered there, but it was not listed in Flower's 1907 catalogue; these new numbers have been used by workers who have examined the material at the College. In the following lists the College numbers are shown first, and then, in brackets, the numbers of the *Thesaurus craniorum* or its *Supplement*.

In the *Thesaurus craniorum* (1867) are listed:—

- 1407 (BD 860). Tasmanian male. Deville collection.
 1408 (BD 861). Tasmanian male. From Van Diemen's Land; Mr Goodwin, Surgeon R.N. Deville collection.
 1409 (BD 862). Tasmanian female. From Van Diemen's Land; Mr Goodwin, Surgeon R.N. Deville collection.
 1410 (BD 863). Tasmanian female. From Van Diemen's Land; Mr Goodwin, Surgeon R.N. Deville collection.
 1411 (BD 867). Tasmanian male. From Dr Greig. Deville collection.
 1412 (BD 928). Tasmanian male. Native of Van Diemen's Land; from Mr Espie, Surgeon. Deville collection.
 1413 (BD 1054). Tasmanian male. Purchased of Mr J. S. Prout.
 1414 (BD 1119). Tasmanian female. Found in the bush at Racecourse, Surrey Hills; from Dr Joseph Milligan.
 1415 (BD 1120). Tasmanian female. Found at St Marys; from Dr Milligan.
 1416 (BD 1120a). Tasmanian female (?). Picked up on north coast; from Dr Milligan.
 1417 (BD 1121). Tasmanian male. From Dr Milligan.
 1418 (BD 1297). Tasmanian male. From G. A. Robinson.

In the *Supplement* (1875) are listed:—

- 1419 (BD 1481). Tasmanian male. From G. A. Robinson collection.
 1420 (BD 1482). Tasmanian female. From G. A. Robinson collection.
 1421 (BD 1763). Tasmanian female.

Of the whole Tasmanian collection in the College the only specimens now existing are — 1096.1, 1096.2 and a fragment of 1416 (BD 1120a), which are now lodged at the British Museum (Natural History); and Paget's 2085 is still at the Royal College of Surgeons.

References: Hrdlicka (1928), Klaatsch (1903), Steadman (1937).

University of Oxford.

The Tasmanian crania bear the serial number AUS 80.

1017. Tasmania. (md—). January 8th 1864. (In Department of Human Anatomy, Oxford).
 1018. Tasmania. (md—). January 8th 1864. (In Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy, Oxford). This skull has not been

described. It was not with others of the series when they were originally described by Garson, and has not since been referred to by any author. It was located during the present enquiries, being recognised by the inscription "1018" and its typical morphology.

1019. Tasmania. (md—). January 8th 1864. (In Department of Human Anatomy, Oxford).
 1020. Tasmania. (md—). Revd W. W. Spicer. (In British Museum [Natural History]).
 1021. Tasmania. (?). (md+). Said to have been brought back by Captain Cook and to be Polynesian. Later classified as Tasmanian. From Christ Church (Ch.Ch.809a O.C.). (In Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford). If originally part of Cook's collections, this skull is the only relic of the Tasmanians obtained before European settlement which still exists.
 1022. Tasmania (md—). Pitt Rivers collection, 1887 (Ruxton). [In British Museum (Natural History)]. This skull was originally numbered "1021a" and measurements of it have been published under this number.
 1023. Tasmania (md—). Pitt Rivers collection, 1887 (Ruxton). (In Department of Human Anatomy, Oxford). This skull was originally numbered "1021b" and measurements of it have been published under this number.

References: Garson (1899), Steadman (1937), Turner (1908).

Royal Army Medical College.

This collection, originally described in 1857 by Surgeon Major George Williamson, M.D., was transferred to the Department of Human Anatomy, Oxford, about 1910, and then, a few years ago, to the British Museum (Natural History). The numbering is that of Williamson's MS and published lists, with the prefix AUS 80, which was added when the skulls were catalogued at Oxford. (Records and MSS relating to this collection are at the British Museum [Natural History]).

5. Tasmania. Donor: Dr Atkinson, Hobart Town. Note:—Williamson listed this skull as that of "Louisa Ferris, who twice attempted to commit murder," but it may be that of an adult male aborigine.
 (58. Native of Van Diemen's Land. Note:—Missing from the collection when received at Oxford).
 59. Native of Van Diemen's Land. (?).
 60. Native of Van Diemen's Land.
 445. Native of Van Diemen's Land. Donor: Dr Willis.
 446. A boy, a native of Van Diemen's Land.

All the above skulls either lack mandibles, or have mandibles apparently of other skulls associated with them.

References: Steadman (1937), Williamson (1857).

British Museum (Natural History).

- 87.12.5.1/1q²⁴. Tasmania. (md—). Donor: W. Savile Kent.
 94.1.20.1. Tasmania. (md+). "Lady Franklin". Donor: G. C. Trench, 1894.

References: Pycraft (1925), Steadman (1937).

King's College (London).

The Tasmanian skull mentioned by Knox (1850) as being in the collection at King's College could not be traced in the Anatomy Department.

Middlesex Hospital (London).

Berry, Robertson and Buchner (1914) refer to two skulls labelled as Tasmanian in the Middlesex Hospital Museum. They consider their authenticity to be somewhat dubious. These skulls could not be traced in the Anatomy Department.

University of Cambridge.

The following skeletal material in the Department of Anatomy was described by Duckworth (1902):—

2096. Tasmanian. Adult male. (md—). The entry in Duckworth's register is—"Cranium ♂ presented by Rev T. Anford in 1845. He describes it as the skull of a poor aboriginal woman murdered in the bush, and gave it to the Rev H. G. Tomkins, Vicar of Branscombe, by whom it was given to Sir G. Humphry. It is evidently male."
2097. Tasmanian. Mandible of adolescent. Donor: James Bonwick.
2098. ? Tasmanian. Mandible of male.
2099. Tasmanian. Adult male. (md—, face and front of cranium only). Port L . . . The entry in the register is:—"Presented to Dr Humphrey by Mr Edmund Abbott who sent it through Mr Charles Harrison of Sudbury." "Sudbury" is evidently Judbury, in the Hun district. "Port L . . ." is expanded to "Port Lamalme??" in the register; could this be (Cape) "Paul Lamanon" badly written?
2100. Tasmanian Adult male. Donor: James Bonwick.

Note:—Specimens 2097, 2098 and 2099 could not be located in 1958/59.

In addition to the above, there is the following undescribed specimen in the collections:—

49. Skull (md+) covered with dried integument on the right side. It was discovered in the trunk of a tree in country near the Tamar Rv and was said to be that of an aboriginal. Donor: Professor J. T. Wilson. Said to have been found by Dr Maddox, Government Medical Officer, about 1880.

University of Edinburgh.

The history of this material (except Nos. 10 and 11 which are undescribed) has been given by Turner (1908). The skulls, which are in the Department of Anatomy, are referred to under the serial number XXX.

1. Van Diemen's Land. Adult male (md—). Monro series (52).
2. V.D.L. Adult male (? William Lanney). (md—). Donor: Dr Lloyd S. H. Oldmeadow.

The original record was "Skull of Tasmanian aborigine, given me by Dr E. M. Crowther of Hobart, Tasmania, and supposed by him to be that of the last of the Tasmanians, (commonly known as King Billy). It was the only Tasmanian skull found in the collection of Dr Crowther's father when he died, and as he was the possessor of King Billy's skull it seems very probable that it is the skull Dr Crowther supposes. Lloyd S. H. Oldmeadow. 11/10/88."

3. Tasmanian. Adult female. (md+). Donor: Dr J. L. Robertson.

4. Tasmanian. Adult male. (md+). Donor: C. Gray. Goodsir series.
5. Van Diemen's Land. Adult male. (md—). Goodsir series.
6. Tasmanian Adult male. (md—). Goodsir series.
7. Van Diemen's Land. Adult male (md—). Phrenological Museum.
8. Extinct race V.D.L. Adult male (md—). Donor. Mr J. Grant.
9. Bridgewater. Juvenile. (md—). Donor: Mr Brent.
10. Tasmanian. (md+). Donor. Dr W. Ramsay Smith, 1912.
11. Tasmanian. (md—). Old collection (Ogilvie catalogue 371).

Royal Scottish Museum.

There is a skull from Van Diemen's Land in the collections, that of an adult male (md—), and originally from Professor Jameson's museum. It was described by Turner (1908) as XXX.10, but this number has since been used by the University of Edinburgh for another Tasmanian skull, added to the collections after the publication of Turner's paper.

Musée de l'homme (Paris).

972. Calvarium de Tasmanien de Port Dalrymple. (md—). Coll: Bedford.
973. Calvarium incomplet trouvé sur les bords du lac St. Clair, Tasmania. (md—). Voy. *Astrolabe & Zélée* 47.
1503. Crâne de Tasmanienne de Launceston (md+). Verreaux 69. This skull may not be that of a native of Launceston. The entry in Verreaux's MS list in the library of the Muséum d'histoire naturelle in Paris reads—"69. tasmanienne, adulte, tête séparée, donnée par Mr Ronald Gunn". Gunn lived in Launceston and Verreaux met him there.
1505. Crâne de Tasmanien. (md+). Verreaux 68.
3619. Crâne de Tasmanien. (md+). Voy. *La Favorite* 10.
3637. Crâne de chef Tasmanien. (md+). Coll. Eydoux II—Gervais (1876).
3638. Crâne de Tasmanien. (md+). Voy. *La Favorite* 12.
4767. Crâne de Tasmanienne. (md+). Lac Saint Clair. Coll. Dumoutier 5—Voy. *Astrolabe & Zélée*.
4768. Crâne de jeune Tasmanien. (md+). Détroit de Furneaux. Coll. Dumoutier 6.

[Note: Among the skulls in the Dumoutier collection, no. 4 is labelled—"Crâne d'Australien mort à Hobarth town, publié comme Tasmanien". References to it as Tasmanian appeared in the results of the voyage of the *Astrolabe* and *Zélée*, in Blanchard's text (pp. 134-136) and in the atlas (pl. 36)].

Although the skulls in the Musée de l'homme have been referred to by a number of authors and particularly by Broca, Quatrefages and Topinard, only a few of them have been described individually. So far as has been determined, information about the skulls is given in the following:—

972. Klatsch (1903). Quatrefages & Hamy (1882) refer (p. 225) to this skull as being

part of Dumont D'Urville's collection. (The Revd William Bedford was Senior Chaplain in Van Diemen's Land and was interested in G. A. Robinson's work among the Tasmanian aborigines. One of his sons, Dr E. S. P. Bedford, entered the colonial medical service in Hobart in 1828, and became a leading doctor there).

973. Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), pp. 204-205—"femme Tasmanienne du sud".
1503. Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), p. 225.
1505. Klaatsch (1903). Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), p. 225, f. 230, 234-236—"Tasmanien de Launceston. Coll. J. Verreaux no. 1". Topinard (1872)—"Tasmanien, no. 1505 du Museum".
3619. Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), p. 224—"no. 3 de cette même série de Hobart - Town". Topinard (1872), f. 2—"Tasmanien, no. B.III, 186 du Muséum". . . la mâchoire est assujettie avec de la ficelle".
3637. Dumoutier (1874). Gervais (1876) — head collected by Eydoux in 1831. Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), f. 228, 229, 231—"Tasmanien de Hobart-Town"; Eydoux no. 2.
3638. Klaatsch (1903). Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), f. 232, pl. XIX f. 3, 4—"Crâne d'un Tasmanien de Hobart-Town"; Eydoux no. 1.
4767. Klaatsch (1903). Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), pp. 224-225—"femme tasmanienne du sud".
4768. Quatrefages & Hamy (1882), p. 225—"crâne de jeune sujet du détroit de Furneaux recueilli par Dumoutier . . . ce jeune Tasmanien peut avoir onze ans environ". (Voy. *Astrolabe* & *Zéléé*).

Institut royal des sciences naturelles de Belgique (Brussels).

- (a) Tasmanien. (md—) Soc. anth. (= Société d'anthropologie de Bruxelles, now Société royale belge d'anthropologie et de préhistoire).
- (b) Tasmanien. (md+). Coll. Dr. Meisser 75d/24.6.1868 (IG2653. R188).

Note:—Turner (1910) states that this skull is not Tasmanian.

Etnografiska Museet (Stockholm).

There is the left half of a Tasmanian skull (md—) in the collections. It was described by Ramström (1926).

University of Vienna.

The Department of Anatomy has the following specimen:—

1403. Van Diemensland. (md+). This skull is listed in Hyrtl's catalogue (1869) under the number 337. Nothing more is known about it, the registers having been destroyed in the last war.

Naturhistorisches Museum (Vienna).

5015. Tasmanien. (md—). This is skull no. 3 of the series described by Harper and Clarke (1898). It was also described by Pöhl (1916). The story of its translation to Vienna is given by Höhnel (1926, pp. 307-308).

Wroclaw (Breslau), Poland.

The Tasmanian skull described by Barkow (1862) and by Weiger (1885) was destroyed in the last war (letter from Dr B. Miskiewicz, Institute of Anthropology, Polish Academy of Sciences).

Fuller collection (Chicago Natural History Museum).

1. Skull of a native of Van Diemen's Land (md+). Originally presented to Chichester Museum in 1833 by J. Forbes M.D. Female? (Steadman no. 1; Field no. 113 [Chicago Natural History Museum]).
2. Female skull from Tasmania. (md—). Formerly in the Chichester Museum, to which it was presented by T. Humphrey in 1838. (Steadman no. 2; Field no. 114).
3. Male native of Van Diemen's Land. (md—). Presented to the Chichester Museum by T. Humphrey in 1838. (Steadman no. 3; Field no. 115).

Reference: Steadman (1937).

THE PELVIS.

In the Musée de l'homme (Paris) there is the following specimen:—

1504. Bassin de Tasmanienne de Launceston. This was sent by Verreaux from Tasmania in 1843 and in the MS catalogue of his collections it is recorded as "70. pelvis tasmanien"; there is no mention of it being accompanied by other parts of the skeleton. This is probably the pelvis described by Verneau (1875) and by Garson (1899), both of whom classify it as male.

HAIR.

Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford).

1. Tasmanian. Eydoux coll. (Hairs brown).
2. Tasmanian. Donor: F. von Luschan, 1914. (2 twisted ringlets, a mixture of light and dark brown hairs).
3. Tasmanian. Voy. *Astrolabe* (Quoy & Gaimard). (Hairs black).
4. Tasmanian male. From Mr Robinson of Bath. (Coiled ringlets loaded with red "earth"; hairs black). [The Mr Robinson referred to is G. A. Robinson, who on his return to England lived in Bath].

University of Edinburgh.

The following material in the Department of Anatomy was described by Turner (1914). Specimens (a), (b) and (c) were from Ling Roth's collection. The Edinburgh collection is not wholly accessible at present, but items (b) and (d) have been located; item (c) probably corresponds to specimen 6491/LR 3. XLIX, catalogued as being in the collections.

- (a) Hair from the head of a Tasmanian aboriginal chief who accompanied G. A. Robinson, collected about 1832.
- (b) Hair of Truganini (♀) (1872).
- (c) Hair of Mrs Thos. Cochrane Smith (hybrid).
- (d) Hair of a male Tasmanian.

Musée de l'homme (Paris).

There are two entries in the catalogue of the collection of hair:—

7857. Cheveux de Tasmanien. Eydoux no. II. (Crâne no. 3637).
7858. Cheveux de Tasmanien. Voy. *Astrolabe* (Quoy & Gaimard no. 10).

However, these entries do not appear to correspond with the two samples in the collection, which are both labelled "Tasmaniens. M. Beauregard", and are:—

- (a) A tightly curled dark brown or black tress, the coil 2½-3 cm long.

(b) Some hairs without any curl and blond to brown in colour, of maximum length about 6 cm.

University of Vienna.

The following specimens are at the Anthropologisches Institut :—

Von Luschan coll.: seven coiled tresses of typically Tasmanian hair, numbered 5131, 5133, 5134, 5135, 5136, 5137 and L5. Their colour ranges between light and dark brown. One specimen is dated "1878"; another (L5) is marked "♂".

Pösch coll.: five specimens similar to the above; two are not numbered, the others 492, 5128 and 5132. This series does not include the "blonde" Tasmanian hair described by Pösch (1916a), which is said to be in the collections here, but has not been located.

Naturhistorisches Museum (Vienna).

There are five specimens of hair marked "Tasmanian" in the collections. Nos. 154, 155 and 156 were received from von Luschan and are typical Tasmanian tight coils; they are 3-4 cm long and the hair is brown. The entry in the register under nos. 157 and 158 is "Tasmanian? beide Haarproben tragen die 2 Bezeichnung Nauru". These latter specimens are tresses of almost straight hair, no. 157 dark brown, about 35 cm long and with a slight wave; and no. 158 is dull black, about 45 cm long and with at most a very slight wave.

ANATOMICAL MATERIAL.

Except for the skeleton and hair, nothing is known of the structure of the body in the Tasmanians. Surgeons performed autopsies on aborigines and probably also dissected the body. A few postmortem reports exist, but these do not give any information about the anatomy; no other records are known.

There were some preserved heads in collections in Europe, but they were never dissected or reported upon in detail, and all that now remains is a single mummified specimen.

Dumoutier (1874) and Gervais (1876) reported briefly on a preserved head obtained by Eydoux when he visited Hobart in July/August 1831 in *La Favorite*, as surgeon of Laplace's expedition. The specimen was eventually destroyed because the preservation was not satisfactory, but there is a plaster cast of the head in the Musée de l'homme (Paris), numbered 3806, and the skull was kept (no. 3637); and specimens of the hair are in several collections.

There was one preserved head, and possibly another, in the collections of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, but this material was destroyed in 1941. It was never described.

Ling Roth (1899) published a photograph of a preserved Tasmanian head in the collections of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. It is still there. This head, said by Ling Roth to be that of an aboriginal named "Shiney," is labelled—"Head of Tasmanian native. Race extinct. 1845. Presented by Dr J. F. Clarke, Inspector General of Hospitals". The specimen was said to have been preserved in whisky, but it has been dried out for many years, Ling Roth's photograph showing it in this state.

In 1911 Professor G. Elliot Smith described a mummified Tasmanian brain sent to him by Professor R. J. A. Berry. The specimen does not seem to exist now; it was probably cut up for examination.

RELICS OF THE DEAD.

The term "relics of the dead" is used here as a designation for objects of human origin carried or used by the Tasmanians as mementoes of the dead, or as charms against or cures for sickness or injury. So far as known all were probably "charms" in the sense of "articles possessing protective or curative properties". There seem to have been two varieties of these objects, (a) bones, fragments of bone or dried parts of the body which were either enclosed in a cover of, for example, kangaroo skin, or tied round with a cord of sinew, by which they were also suspended, and (b) gatherings from cremation sites contained in a wrapping.

Barnard Davis obtained examples of both forms of relic from G. A. Robinson, and these were acquired by the Royal College of Surgeons with his collection of skeletal material. The College retained the type (a) relics, renumbering them as follows :—

1422 (BD 1487). 1422A (BD 1488). 1422B (BD 1489). 1422C (BD 1490). 1423 (BD 1491). 1424 (BD 1492). 1425 (BD 1493). — (BD 1494).

All this material was destroyed in 1941.

Two examples of type (b) relic from the Robinson-Davis collection were presented by the College to the British Museum, in the catalogue of which there is the following entry relating to them :—

"Bundle of bark containing cinerated ashes of the dead. It is circular in outline and pressed flat; fastened by thick reddish string on one surface. Marked "amulet of KILLUPEY MALATOFT or TUPA," June 26 1838. Another bundle of ashes L.7. Formerly belonged to George Augustus Robinson, Protector of the Aborigines (from Dr Barnard Davis' collection). Presented by the Royal College of Surgeons 14th December 1882. 82. 12-14. 2".

The details of the catalogue entry appear to be a mutilation of an original label. It seems likely that this was one of Robinson's (the word "cinerated" is found in his MSS), but to accord with the specimens "bundle of bark" needs some such words as "skin bag enclosing" first; and *killupey*, *malatoft* and *tupa* are unlike Tasmanian words or names. The date June 26, 1838 is not one on which a Tasmanian aboriginal died on Flinders Island but there is a reference in Robinson's journal for May 25, 1838 to a native woman called "Ellen" who wore "an amulet a parcel of ashes hung round her throat to alleviate the pain." Robinson had previously seen her with a human bone suspended to her back and had asked her for it, but was refused, Ellen pointing out that he already had one in his office. Ellen died on June 13 and Robinson might well have obtained the "amulet" on June 26.

Through the kindness of Mr B. A. L. Cranstone, the two specimens in the British Museum have now been examined. Their present form is flattened and roughly circular; they are about 3 cm thick, and one is about 13.5 cm in diameter and the other about 17 cm. The cover is skin of a mammal, but no trace of the hair remains. The cover forms a bag, the mouth of which is drawn together by a cord and, in one of the specimens, also by strips of skin 1-2 cm wide. The cord is a crude 3-ply fibre twist. Strips and cord are threaded through slits in the skin bag and laced across its mouth, the slits being arranged in a single row around the mouth, about 1 cm from its margin. The contents of each bag are partly charcoal and dust, and partly unburnt vegetable

matter. The largest lumps of charcoal have one or more sides of about 1 cm, and there is a gradation of size between these and the dust. All the charcoal appeared to be wood charcoal: no bone was found except part of the beak of a bird, slightly charred at its base, in one of the specimens. The unburnt vegetable matter comprised bark and grass, the bark being more papery in one and more fibrous in the other; no leaves were found. There was a definite appearance of layering, the unburnt material lining the bag and surrounding the inner mass of charcoal.

All the bone "relics" of the Barnard Davis series (1422, etc.) were bound with kangaroo sinew (1422 A had also a cord of vegetable fibre to suspend it), but this may not have been the original condition. Robinson obtained some at least of these "relics" at the Flinders Island settlement, and twice mentions in his journal asking a native to replace with a cord of kangaroo sinew the string with which the bone was bound.

The "relics" used by the aborigines at the Flinders Island settlement had either been brought there by them or were prepared at the settlement. Bundles of ashes, if they were to contain human material, could not have been prepared later than October 17, 1835, when Robinson arrived to take charge. The same would apply for most other types of "relics," for after Robinson arrived all bodies were buried. Of those dying at the settlement before October 17, 1835 some were buried and some were cremated. Even in Robinson's time however, some "relics" were prepared by mothers from the heads of their infants dying soon after birth.

References: Davis (1875), Pulleine (1924), Roth (1899).

SPEARS.

No Tasmanian spears were located during the survey of European collections, apart from those labelled "Van Diemen's Land" in the Saffron Walden Museum. There is one spear in the Fuller collection at Chicago which may be Tasmanian.

WADDIES.

British Museum.

The following description is associated with the one specimen in the British Museum:—

"Wooden club in form of a pointed stick with roughened grip. Mr Jas. Backhouse, Tasmania. Used for hunting wallaby. Obtained in 1832 from natives at Flinders Island (reference: Backhouse (1843) "Narrative . . .", p. 90). Purchased from Treasurer of Yorkshire Philosophical Society Museum, York." Length about 65 cm.

Fuller collection (Chicago).

Among the material obtained by Captain Fuller from the Chichester Museum was a rough stick with a chipped grip. This was apparently the specimen referred to in the catalogue of that museum as being a club used by the natives of Van Diemen's Land, presented in 1833 by John Forbes, M.D. (Field no. 4137).

Musée et Institut d'Ethnographie (Geneva).

Three clubs in the collections may be Tasmanian.

CANOE-RAFTS (Models).

There are references in the literature to seven models of the Tasmanian canoe-raft. Three of these were figured by Ling Roth (1899); they were then in the

museum of Eton College, but are now in the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford. Four other models were shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851, and of these one is now in the British Museum (the other three have not been located).

Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford).

(a) "Aboriginal canoe of tea-tree bark (*Melaleuca*) bound with kurajong bark. They were usually made of stringy bark. Capable of taking 8-10 persons. Obt. by Sir John Franklin (Governor), 1843; dd. Eton Coll. Museum 1893." (Three bundles of about the same size, tapering at the ends. Ling Roth (1899), p. 156).

(b) "Aboriginal canoe. Tasmania. Obt. by Sir J. Franklin 1843; dd. Eton Coll. Museum 1893." (A large central bundle and two much smaller bundles forming the sides, brought to a point at one end and cut square at the other. Made of bullrush? Ling Roth (1899), p. 156).

(c) "Aboriginal canoe. Tasmania. Obt. by Sir J. Franklin 1843; dd. Eton Coll. Museum 1893." (A single round bundle, tapering at the ends. Made of bullrush? Ling Roth (1899), p. 156).

British Museum.

"Tasmania. Boat made from three rolls of bark; this is really a raft with pointed ends. Given by the Secretary, The Royal Society (exhibited in the Great Exhibition of 1851). 51.11-22.5." ("Secretary of the Royal Society" signifies Dr Joseph Milligan, Secretary of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1848-1860, who was in charge of the Tasmanian exhibits at the Great Exhibition). This is the model referred to by Ling Roth (1890, p. x, pl. IV; 1899, p. 157). The entry in the catalogue of the Great Exhibition reads:—"279. J. Milligan. Four models of canoes of the aborigines of Van Diemen's Land. (These are exact models of the large catamarans, in which the natives used to cross to Bruné Island; the material is bark of the *Melaleuca squarrosa*)." "

FIRE-DRILLS.

Two fire-drills have been described in the literature as Tasmanian. One of these instruments was figured by Lubbock (1869, 1890, 1900), and both were described and figured by Ling Roth (1890, 1899).

Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford).

"Firestick, native Tasmanian. Presented by Dr Barnard Davis 1868."

Fuller collection (Chicago).

The fire-drill figured by Lubbock in the second and subsequent editions of his book *Pre-historic times*, was given to him by G. A. Robiusion. When Lubbock's collection was dispersed this fire-drill was acquired by Sir Henry Wellcome, but when Wellcome's collection was sold in 1934 only the drill could be found, the pad being missing. The drill was bought by Captain Fuller and is now in the Chicago Natural History Museum (Field no. 4138).

In spite of the evidence apparently provided by these fire-drills, it is very doubtful whether the Tasmanians used such instruments to obtain fire, at any rate before their contacts with the Australian aborigines. Lubbock received his specimen from G. A. Robiusion,

and it seems likely that the Pitt Rivers-Barnard Davis specimen was also originally in Robinson's collection, a collection in which there was known to be confusion between material of Tasmanian and Australian origin. Ling Roth (1899, appendix H) states that the Barnard Davis specimen was obtained from Dr Joseph Milligan but this seems doubtful and it is much more likely that it was one of those obtained from Robinson (see list). Moreover, Ling Roth's statement (1899) that Milligan "knew nothing of the aborigines until 1847" is hardly correct: he was appointed surgeon to the Van Diemen's Land Company in 1831 and was stationed on the North-West Coast, an appointment which gave him opportunities for observing the natives. Milligan's statement to Barnard Davis, quoted on page 4 of this paper, that the specimens he had obtained from Robinson were largely Australian, has, therefore, some authority.

Robinson's statements to others on the subject of fire-making do not help either. Thus, among his papers in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, there are some letters written to him in 1865/66 by a Dr John Davy of Amble-side. Robinson had evidently sent Davy particulars of "the manner employed by the Tasmanians to procure fire," but his description was apparently not clear for Davy could only *infer* from Robinson's reply "that it was by friction." The same correspondence shows that Robinson had pointed out to Sir John Lubbock that he had fallen into a mistake by trusting to the statement made by Dove (1842) about the Tasmanians that although fire was well known to them, some tribes, at least, appear to have been ignorant whence it was obtained, or how, if extinguished, it could be re-lighted. Yet Lubbock continues to quote Dove in later editions of his *Pre-historic times*, and merely figures the fire-drill given him by Robinson.

Possibly this confusion has arisen not only from Robinson's muddle but also from the use of the word "firestick" to describe both a fire-brand (for carrying fire) and a fire-drill (for making fire by friction); and there is some indication of this in Barnard Davis's list of the Robinson collection (p. 2-3). Certainly, any references to fire in the field journals in which Robinson kept a daily record of his journeyings through the Tasmanian bush, confirm Dove's statement. The last word seems to be provided by Robinson himself, writing in his journal on May 13 1840 when he was travelling in the bush in Victoria—"I observed for the first time how natives in their original state get fire by friction from two pieces of wood," he says, and then proceeds to describe and figure a fire-drill clearly identical with the two "Tasmanian" specimens referred to above, to describe how it was used and to record that the aboriginal he saw using it presented this fire-drill to him. The drill pad of a "Tasmanian" specimen from Robinson's collection now in the Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston, Tasmania, is made of non-Tasmanian material (Palmaeaceae). There remains little doubt that the records of Tasmanian fire-drills are based on Australian material.

WATER CONTAINERS.

The Tasmanians made a container for water from the broad blade of *Sarcophycus potatorum*, a type of kelp common along parts of the Tasmanian coast, forming the vessel by gathering up the sides on sticks. Such a vessel has been described by Labillardière (1800)

and by Péron & Freycinet (1807/1816).

A model of one of these containers was on display in the Great Exhibition of 1851, and the note in the catalogue reads:—

"231. J. Milligan. Model of a water-pitcher, made by the aborigines of Van Diemen's Land. (This water-pitcher is made of the broad-leaved kelp, and is large enough to hold a quart or two of water. The only other vessel possessed by the aborigines for carrying a supply of water was a sea-shell, a large cymba, occasionally cast upon the northern shore of Van Diemen's Land, which contained about a quart)". This is evidently the model now in the British Museum, which is labelled—"Model of kelp water vessel. Given by J. Milligan. 51.11-22.2".

Ling Roth (1899), in giving a figure of this model, also refers to another model in the Ethnological Museum of the Louvre, but this has not been traced; it is not in the collections of the Musée du Louvre, or of the Musée de la marine (formerly in the Palais du Louvre), or of the Musée de l'homme.

NECKLETS.

Four types of necklet of Tasmanian origin have been described. One was made of the sinews of the kangaroo's tail, formed into several loops; another comprised loops of twisted plant fibre; and another loops of furred skin. The fourth type of necklet was one or more loops of small shells, usually *Elenchus sp.*, strung on a sinew or twisted fibre.

Necklets said to have been made by the Tasmanian aborigines are fairly common in collections. Most of them are strings of small shells; and in all those seen the shells are strung on a machine-twisted thread, which may either signify restringing, or that they were made after European contacts had been made. Many of the latter must have been made by the captive aborigines on Flinders Island.

British Museum.

There are about ten necklets of shells in the collections. Two of these were presented by J. Edge-Partington and were obtained by him in Hobart; another was given by Joseph Milligan in 1851; and others are marked as coming from Flinders Island.

Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford).

There are at least five necklets in this museum, four of which are strings of small shells. The other necklet is labelled:—

"Necklet of native string worn by both sexes Tasmanian aborigines; dd. Dr Barnard Davis 1868." This consists of several coils of string, the loops about 20 cm. long and several of them bound together here and there with a whipping of a 2-ply twist over a distance of about 1 cm. This necklet has been figured by Ling Roth (1899, p. 131).

Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (Cambridge).

There is a necklace of the shells of *Calliostoma sp.*, about one metre in length overall, which is labelled "? Tasmanian. Dr Webster. 1906".

Royal Albert Memorial Museum (Exeter).

There is a shell necklace and a bracelet in the collections, reputed to have belonged to Truganini (donor Miss C. E. Wright, 1905).

Pitt Rivers Museum (Farnham).

There are two necklets in the collections, labelled "Necklace made of dog claws on sinew. Tasmania." These necklets consist of teeth and beads on a string of vegetable fibre. The teeth are canines of the dog and are pierced through the roots for stringing. On the roots a pattern has been incised. They are probably native work from New Guinea.

Royal Scottish Museum.

There are two Tasmanian shell necklets in the collections, one labelled—

"Necklace of shells made by natives. Presented by the Tasmanian Commission, International Exhibition 1862";

and the other—

"Necklace of small shells (*Truncatella marginata*) and a few *Elenchus* shells strung on thread. Cape Barren Island, Bass Straits."

Another necklace of *Elenchus* shells, which is labelled as Australian, is thought to be Tasmanian.

Hunterian Museum (Glasgow).

There is one necklace of shells in the museum, from the Bass Straits.

Museum für Völkerkunde (Köln).

Some necklets in the collections may be Tasmanian.

Fuller collection (Chicago).

A necklace in this collection (Field no. 4139), obtained before 1834 by John Merriman, may be of sinew. It is covered with a red incrustation.

Museo Nazionale (Rome).

There are some Tasmanian shell necklaces in this museum, in the Giglioli collections.

BASKETS.

It seems likely that the Tasmanian aborigines in their natural state used only one type of weave in the baskets they made, and that such baskets were small and in form globular or cylindrical with a rounded bottom. Other types of basket-work have been attributed to the Tasmanians. Three different types were described by Ling Roth in the first edition of his book (1890), but by the time of the second edition (1899) he had come to the conclusion that only one weave was indigenous, and consisted of vertical bars held together by horizontal bars of 2-ply plaiting, the horizontal bars about half an inch apart, and the vertical bars spaced by the horizontal plaiting. A narrow-leaved "grass" such as *Lepidosperma* was used in manufacture, single blades being used both in the vertical bars and in each strand of the horizontal ply (Ling Roth, 1890, pp. ix-x, pl. III; 1899, pp. 144-145).

There is very little precise information about the basket-work of the Tasmanians. The baskets illustrated by the French explorers are shown with insufficient detail (they are usually in composite illustrations, e.g., as in Labillardière), or may be Australian rather than Tasmanian (Péron & Freyeinet, pl. XIII). The real confusion seems to have begun with Robinson, whose collections contained baskets marked "Tasmanian" of the three forms figured by Ling Roth (1890, pls. I, II, III). A large number of baskets must have passed through Robinson's hands: comments in his diaries for 1829-1834 mention baskets, Australian as well as Tas-

manian, given to him in Tasmania by the natives and others, and baskets sent by him to friends and acquaintances; baskets (and necklaces) must have been a common commodity at the native markets held later on Flinders Island; and there is no reason to suppose that baskets were not acquired by Robinson during the Port Phillip protectorate. There were many opportunities for muddle then and later.

*British Museum.*A. *Tasmanian-type* (Ling Roth 1890, pl. III).

- (a) One basket labelled—"Basket. Tasmania. Mr Milligan 51.11-22.1".
- (b) Four baskets labelled — (1) "Tasmanian GAR," (2) "J. B. Davis coll." (One of these baskets measures about 9" x 9", another 9" x 7". All have a 2-ply twist carrying-string).
- (c) One basket labelled—(1) "Tasmania GAR/Roth pl. III", (2) "J. B. Davis coll", (3) "A. W. F. Nov 4th 1889 +4672 Tasmania J. B. Davis".
- (d) One basket labelled—"Rush basket. Given by A. W. Franks +4672".

B. *Other types.*

B1. (Ling Roth 1890, pl. I).

There are about ten baskets of this type in the British Museum. All of them are labelled "J. B. Davis coll", and some of them have other labels also, in four cases the other label or one of them being "Tasmania GAR". These baskets are larger on the average than those of type A, being commonly about 15" across and 12" deep, and one of them is quite large, measuring about 24" across. One of the baskets has the following labels—(1) "Tasmania GAR," (2) "J. B. Davis coll / drawn by Miss Roth", (3) "Tasmania A.W.F. Nov. 4th 1889 J. B. Davis +4675 / Roth pl. I".

B2. (Ling Roth 1890, pl. II.).

There are five baskets of this type in the British Museum, labelled "Tasmania GAR", and from the Barnard Davis collection. One is also labelled "drawn by Miss Roth".

C. *Miscellaneous basketry.*

In the British Museum there is also a mat and a large container, both of type B1 weave. It is unlikely that these articles are of indigenous Tasmanian manufacture.

- (a) "Flat circular basket of spiral plaiting with withes and strips of leaf or grass: projecting mouth at one side. No history, but it was in company with Tasmanian baskets. Presented by A. W. Franks Esq., 4th November 1889. (Dr Barnard Davis). (+4671)". This container is circular, the diameter about 15".
- (b) "Oval mat of plaited rush (or leaf strips) with a smaller mat of the same shape fastened in the middle. Tasmania G.A.R. Presented by A. W. Franks Esq., 4th November 1889. (Dr Barnard Davis). (+4674)".

Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford).

- (a) "Basket in twined weaving. Probably made of *Lepidosperma filiforme*. Tasmania, Pitt Rivers collection 1440. From Royal Gardens, Kew." This is a type A basket, considered here to be Tasmanian.
- (b) "Coiled basketry. Sewing done in a series of zig-zag loops with two elements. Possibly made of *Lepidosperma gladiatum*. Tasmanian: Pitt Rivers coll. 1441. From Ethn. Soc. coll.; dd. Royal Gardens, Kew." This is type B1 basketry.

Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (Cambridge).

There is a Tasmanian (type A) basket in this Museum labelled—"Collected by Rev. Backhouse, Quaker Missionary, 1835." The index card describes the basket as a "roughly pear-shaped openwork twined bag of unspun fibres held by a coil of twining crossing them at intervals of about 1/3" Very similar in construction to 54.120 from Queensland except for the closeness of the basal coil and the lack of a binding at the top."

STRING BAGS.

In the British Museum and at Oxford are some string bags consisting of loose loops of a 2-ply cord, and having a carrying handle of cord (ref. Ling Roth 1890, pp. ix-x). There are four of these bags in the British Museum, all from the Barnard Davis collection; one measures about 18" across and 18" deep, and the others about 12" across and the same depth or a little less.

In the Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford) the specimen is labelled—"Tasmania. Bag worn over neck and under left arm by women diving for *Haliotis* shell fish. Obtained by Dr Davis 1868. PR coll 1429". There is no evidence that such a string bag was used naturally by the native women when gathering shell-fish, the records referring to baskets being used for this purpose.

STONE IMPLEMENTS.

Tasmanian stone implements are to be found in a number of collections in Europe, but except for the Westlake collection at Oxford, the specimens are often inadequately labelled, damaged or weathered. Moreover, there are so few specimens in many of the collections that a comprehensive series is seldom found, and this has tended to restrict the work of European students.

The Westlake collection in the Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford) comprises about 12,000 specimens, but has been referred to only by Balfour (1925). Ernest Westlake formed the collection during a visit to Tasmania: arriving in Hobart about mid-November 1908 he stayed in the island until at least January 1910 and during that time travelled extensively. His notebooks contain accounts of interviews with old settlers who remembered the natives and half-castes, or whose parents and relatives had known them.

There are collections of Tasmanian stone implements in the following Museums, the approximate number of specimens being shown in brackets following the name of the institution or collection:—

England. British Museum (300), British Museum (Natural History) (4), Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (Cambridge) (72), Horniman Museum (London) (49), Manchester Museum (a few), City Museum (Bristol) (50-100), Wellcome Historical Medical

Museum (London) (16), Exeter Museum (a few), Lacaille collection (London) (16), Brighton Museum (9), [Part, perhaps all, of the Brighton collection came from E. B. Tylor and was used in preparing his paper on Tasmanian stone implements (1894). In this museum are also the three ground stone axes which Tylor described in 1895 and which had been in Barnard Davis's collection]. Geological Museum (Oxford) (40-50) [Among these specimens are some from E. B. Tylor's collection].

Northern Ireland. Belfast Museum (6).

Belgium. Institut royal des sciences naturelles (Brussels) (443).

France. Musée de l'homme (Paris) (21), Institut de palaeontologie humaine (Paris) (10).

Denmark. Nationalmuseet (Copenhagen) (170). [The Pullaine collection is not in the Nationalmuseet, as stated by McCarthy (1938). (The skulls from the Pullaine collection (ref. Hrdlicka (1928)) are in the South Australian Museum, Adelaide)].

Italy. Museo Nazionale di Antropologia e Etnologia (Florence), Museo Nazionale Preistorico Etnografico (Rome). [It is understood that both these collections contain only a few specimens].

Sweden. Etnografiska Museet (Stockholm) (7), Etnografiska Museet (Goteborg) (a few).

Switzerland. Bernisches Historisches Museum (14), Musée et Institut d'Ethnographie (Geneva) (about 30).

BONE IMPLEMENTS.

The Westlake collection at Oxford contains a bone implement made from the fibula of a kangaroo, from a midden at Adventure Bay, Bruny Island; and there is a specimen of doubtful authenticity in the British Museum.

SIGNBOARD.

One of the painted boards issued by Governor Arthur about 1828 to inform the aborigines that native and settler were equal under the law, is in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Cambridge. It had formed part of Dr Barnard Davis's collection, and he had obtained it from John Skinner Prout, the artist, in 1856. Prout, who came to Australia in 1840 and stayed about ten years, spending some of that time in Tasmania, was given the board by G. A. Robinson. (Refer to Little (1945) for a description of this board).

BUSTS, FACE-MASKS (Plaster).

Musée de l'homme (Paris).

There is a collection of plaster busts and face-masks of the Tasmanian aborigines in the Musée de l'homme which includes five busts modelled by Dumoutier when he visited Hobart Town in 1839/40 as préparateur d'anatomie and plirénologiste of Dumont D'Urville's expedition with the *Astrolabe* and *Zélée*.

904. Buste de Bourrakooroo, natif de Ringarooma-bay. Coll. Dumont D'Urville 58.

905. Buste d'un naturel de la terre de Van Diemen. (Jeune fille). Coll. Dumont D'Urville 59. (Also marked: "HYOLEBOUYER (Lalla Rook)").

906. Buste de Ménalarguerna, natif de Oister-bay. Coll. Dumont D'Urville 60.

915. Buste de Timmey, natif de George River, terre de Van Diemen. Coll. Dumont D'Urville 69.

916. Buste de Guenny, port Sorrell, Tasmanic. Coll. Dumont D'Urville 70.

There are also copies and trials of some of these, as well as face-masks prepared from 915 and 916, and the face-mask of a child.

In addition to the above there are the following :—

(a) Buste de jeune Tasmanien. Coll. Dumoutier.

(b) 3806. Buste de Tasmanien moulé sur la tête rapportée par Eydoux, Voyage de *la Favorite* (145), et conservée dans l'alcool. Le crâne est dans la collection sous le no. 3637).

References : Dumont D'Urville (1841-51), Quatrefages & Hanry (1882).

Law's busts of Truganina and Woureddy.

Copies of these well-known busts of Truganini (T.) and Woureddy (W.) have been seen in the British Museum (T. & W.), Royal Anthropological Institute (T.) and in the Musée de l'Homme (T. & W.; obtained by Dumoutier in 1839/40, coll. Dumont D'Urville 67 and 68). There are also copies in the Salisbury Museum (T. & W.) and in the Anatomy Department of the University of Edinburgh (W.).

Captain A. W. F. Fuller has a copy of the bust of Woureddy with the words "From J. Scott Col. Surg. to Dr Forbes" also inscribed on it. This bust came from the Chichester Museum.

CASTS OF SKULLS, ENDOCRANIAL CASTS.

Endocranial casts and casts of skulls have been seen in various collections. Some of these, and others, have been referred to in the literature. There is often no information from which to identify the original model, and for this reason and also because such casts are of little use for precise work, they will not be listed here.

PORTRAITS OF THE TASMANIANS.

Original portraits of the aborigines have been located in several collections in Europe. They will be dealt with in another paper.

SCOPE OF ENQUIRY.

A list of the museums and collections covered by this enquiry is given below. Those that were visited are indicated by an asterisk (*); enquiries were made at others by letter. Collections in which Tasmanian material was located are marked with a dagger (†).

Austria :

Vienna—*† Naturhistorisches Museum; *† Anatomischen Institut, Universität; ° Museum für Völkerkunde; *† Institut für Anthropologie, Universität.

Belgium :

Brussels—*† Institut royal des sciences naturelles de Belgique.

Denmark :

Copenhagen—*† Nationalmuseet.

Eire :

Dublin—° National Museum of Ireland; ° Department of Anatomy, Trinity College; *† Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

England :

Arundel—Totems Museum.

Batley—Bagshaw Museum.

Birchington—Powell-Cotton Museum.

Birmingham — City Museum; Department of Anatomy, The University.

Bournemouth—Russell-Cotes Museum.

Brighton—*† County Museum.

Bristol—† City Museum; Department of Anatomy, The University.

Burnley—Towneley Hall Museum.

Exeter—† Royal Albert Memorial Museum.

Hastings—Public Museum.

Liverpool—Public Museum.

Manchester—† Manchester Museum; Department of Anatomy, The University.

New Barnet—Abbev Museum.

Saffron Walden—*† Museum.

St. Helens—Gamble Institute.

Salford—° City Museum.

Salisbury—† Salisbury, South Wilts and Blackmore Museum.

University of Cambridge—*† Department of Anatomy; °† Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

University of Oxford — °† Pitt Rivers Museum; °† Museum of Geology; °† Museum of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy; † Department of Anatomy.

Kingston upon Hull—City Museums.

Northampton—Central Museum.

Farnham (Dorset)—*† Pitt-Rivers Museum.

London—*† British Museum; *† British Museum (Natural History); ° Commonwealth Institute; °† Wellcome Historical Medical Museum; °† Horniman Museum; °† Royal College of Surgeons of England; °† Royal Anthropological Institute; ° Department of Anatomy, University College; ° Department of Anatomy, Kings College; ° Department of Anatomy, Middlesex Hospital Medical School; °† Captain A. W. F. Fuller (private collection and Fuller Collection, Chicago, U.S.A.).

Northern Ireland :

Belfast—*† Museum.

Poland :

Wroclaw (Breslau) — Institute of Anthropology, Polish Academy of Sciences.

Scotland :

Aberdeen—Department of Anatomy, The University.

Edinburgh—°† Department of Anatomy, The University; °† Royal Scottish Museum; ° Royal College of Surgeons.

Glasgow—City Museum; † Hunterian Museum.

Perth—City Museum.

Stirling—Smith Arts Institute.

Stromness—Orkney Natural History Society.

Sweden :

Goteborg—† Etnografiska Museet.

Stockholm—*† Etnografiska Museet.

Switzerland :

Basel—Museum für Völkerkunde.

Bern—† Historisches Museum.

Geneve—† Musée et institut d'ethnographie.

Neuchatel—Musée d'ethnographie.

France :

Le Havre—° † Muséum d'histoire naturelle.
 Paris—° † Muséum de l'homme; ° Muséum du Louvre;
 ° Muséum de la marine; ° † Muséum de la France
 d'outre mer; ° † Institut de palaeontologie
 humaine.

Germany :

Berlin-Dahlem—Museum für Völkerkunde.
 Bonn—Seminar für Völkerkunde der Universität.
 Frankfurt am Main—Anthropologisches Institut;
 Senckenberg Museum; Frobenius-Institut.
 Hamburg—Museum für Völkerkunde.
 Köln—† Museum für Völkerkunde
 München—Staatliches Museum für Völkerkunde.

Note:—The following material is referred to in the literature, but little information has been obtained concerning it:—

Berlin University—skull (no. 241) of Nanuy, a
 half-caste Tasmanian.
 von Luschan collection—5 skulls, from G. A. Robin-
 son (Klaatsch (1903), Turner (1908)); hair.
 Friedenthal collection—hair.

Verworu collection—stone implements.

Klaatsch collection—skulls and stone implements.

Dr. Fritz Kiffner, who was one of Professor von Luschan's pupils, has informed me that the von Luschan collection is now in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and Dr H. L. Shapiro of that Museum has since informed me that seven Tasmanian skulls were acquired from the von Luschan collection.

Holland :

Amsterdam—° Institut voor de Tropen; Depart-
 ment of Anatomy, Municipal University.

Leiden—Department of Anatomy, University.

Utrecht—Institute of Anthropology. (Tasmanian
 material believed to be in the collections can-
 not be traced).

Italy :

Florence— † Societa Italiana di Antropologia e
 Etnologia; † Museo Nazionale di Antropologia
 e Etnologia.

Rome—Istituto di Antropologia dell' Università
 di Roma; † Museo Nazionale.

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